(iii) Dr. Syama Prasad Mookherjee Swimming Pool;

(iv) Dr. Karni Singh Shooting Ranges; and

(v) Indira Gandhi Stadium.

Stadia upgraded by other agencies

(i) R.K. Khanna Lawn Tennis Stadium;

(ii) Shivaji Stadium;

(iii) Chhattarsal Stadium; and

(iv) Dr. Ambedkar Stadium

CII Survey on Bio-Tech Sector

*86. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a survey was conducted by the Confederation of Indian Industry, on the bio-tech sector, covering 52 companies;

(b) if so, whether they have found the bio-tech in one of the fastest emerging sectors in the country and has projected it to grow to $ 4.5 billion by the end of 2010;

(c) whether Government have examined the survey report;

(d) if so, what steps are being taken by Government to implement the suggestions made in the survey report; and

(e) what steps are being taken to invest more in the bio-tech industry?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) has conducted a survey on modern bio-tech industries and the data projected in the survey report is based on the information collected on 52 companies. The survey report has projected the growth of bio-tech industry to the tune of US $ 4.5 billion by the year 2010.

(c) and (d) The CII survey report was to create awareness about the new opportunities to facilitate Indian industries to be globally competitive with international networking and to promote Indian lindustries based on biotechnology. The report has not been submitted to the Government.

(e) Several measures have been taken by the Government for promotion of bio-tech sector. To encourage research in industrial sector, the Government of India has established Technology Development Board (TDB) and Pharmaceutical Research and Development Support Fund (PRDSF) under the Department of Science and Technology for providing soft loans. Incentives like exemption from Drugs (Price Control) Order, 1995 for certain bio-tech products, more than 100% of weighted deductions on R&D expenditure etc., have been allowed. There is a specific expert group in the Department of Bio-Technology (DBT) to identify for implementation of product and technology oriented research. There is a close interaction now between academia and industry to transfer indigenously developed technologies for commercialisation. So far 53 technologies based on indigenous research have been transferred to the industries. Special fund has been provided to DBT for setting up bio-tech incubators and parks to promote entrepreneurship. Training in the industrial bio-tech sector is also given at many universities and IITs. Bio-tech Product and Process Development and Commercialization Awards are given to scientists and industries as an lincentive. Further, imposing Custom Duties on imported bio-tech products wherever necessary, encouraging Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in biotech sector, initiating measures for speedy implementation of Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) projects, constitution of Fast Track Committee (FTC) under Foreign Investment Implementation Authority (FIIA) etc. are the other steps.

Six new Railway Zones

*87. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had decided to set up six new Railway Zones in 1996;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and